

THE SENATE

The Senate is composed of 46 Senators elected on November 6, 2012 for terms of four years (Const. Art. III, Sec. 6). Pursuant to Sec. 2-1-65 of the 1976 Code, as last amended by Act 49 of 1995, each Senator is elected from one of forty-six numbered single-member senatorial districts. Candidates for the office of Senator must be legal residents of the district from which they seek election. Each senatorial district contains a population of approximately one/forty-sixth of the total population of the State based on the 2010 Federal Census.

First year legislative service stated means the year the Member attended his first session.

Abbreviations: [D] after name indicates Democrat, [R] after name indicates Republican; *b.* “born”; *g.* “graduated”; *m.* “married”; *s.* “son of”; *d.* “daughter of.”

OFFICERS

President, Ex officio, Lieutenant Governor

McCONNELL, Glenn F. [R]—(for biography and picture see p. 17).

President *Pro Tempore*



COURSON, John E. [R]—(Dist. No. 20, Lexington-Richland Cos.)—Senior VP, Kennan & Suggs; *b.* Nov. 21, 1944; *g.* Univ. of S.C., 1968; *m.* Elizabeth Poinsett Exum, 3 children, James Poinsett, Elizabeth Boykin, and Harris Russell; Episcopalian; mil. serv.: USMCR; prev. serv. in Sen. 1985–12; elected Pres. *Pro Tempore* Mar. 13, 2012.

Clerk of the Senate

GOSSETT, Jeffrey S.—(Richland Co.)—residing in Columbia; s. Cherryl Ann Sanders and the late Harry Kenneth Gossett; *g.* Univ. of S.C., B.A., Political Science, 1992, M.P.A., 1994; June 18, 1993 *m.* Susanah Paige Jones, 3 children; elected Clerk Jan. 9, 2001, serving continuously since.

**Assistant Clerk**

HITCHCOCK, Michael R.—(Richland Co.)—residing in Columbia; s. Ernest and Glenna Hitchcock; *g.* Univ. of S.C., B.A., 1993, J.D., 1996; Sept. 30, 2005 *m.* Regina West, 1 child; apptd. Asst. Clerk Oct. 29, 2002, serving continuously since.

**Reading Clerk**

WIENGES, John Othniel—(Calhoun Co.)—residing at 102 Wienges Court, St. Matthews; *b.* Apr. 15, 1960; s. Othniel Henry and Carolyn (Phillips) Wienges; *g.* Univ. of S.C., B.A., Political Science, 1983; 3 children, John Othniel, Jr., William Trezevant, and Frances Wren; former Mayor, Town of St. Matthews; mem., St. Paul United Methodist Church; former Pres., Calhoun Co. Farm Bureau; Kappa Alpha Order; apptd. Asst. Clerk Mar. 1, 1988; elected Reading Clerk Jan. 11, 1994, serving continuously since.



Sergeant at Arms

MELTON, James R.—(Kershaw Co.)—residing at 1707 Broad St., Camden; *b.* Oct. 31, 1952 in Camden; *s.* the late William A. Melton and Phyllis Glover (Melton) Kelly; Sept. 1, 1972 *m.* Brenda Baker, 2 children, James Robert, Jr. and Julie Anne; First Baptist Church, Camden; apptd. Asst. Sgt. at Arms Oct. 1, 1986 and elected Jan. 13, 1987; apptd. Sgt. at Arms

Nov. 21, 1989 and elected Jan. 9, 1990, serving continuously since.

Chaplain

ST. JOHN, James I.—(Richland Co.)—Retired Pastor; residing at 2136 Bee Ridge Rd., Columbia; *b.* Mar. 19, 1939; *s.* the late Ivan S. and Kathryn (McCreary) St. John; *g.* Wofford Coll., B.A., 1961; Univ. of S.C., M.A., 1969; Columbia Theological Seminary, D.Min., 1978; July 20, 1963 *m.* Ann Beatrice Hendrix, 1 child, Melissa St. John Raith; Ordained, Presbyterian Church,

USA, 1978; named Pastor *Emeritus*, Forest Lake Presbyterian Church, Columbia, 2005; elected Chaplain Jan. 9, 2007, serving continuously since.